

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208963

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BERN BONN LONDON OTTAWA PARIS ROME
TAIPEI TOKYO CANBERRA INFO BRASILIA CAIRO CARACAS DAR
ES SALAAM GENEVA ISLAMABAD NAIROBI PEKING HONG KONG DTD
232005Z AUG 76

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: INTELSAT, ETEL, PORG, CH, TW

SUBJECT: INTELSAT - CHIREP

REF: A) BONN 13516 (NOTAL) B) STATE 110488 (NOTAL)

1. FOR BONN. FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS HAVE OCCURRED SINCE
DISPATCH REFTEL B. FRG EMBOFF WASHINGTON HAS BEEN BRIEFED
ON THESE MATTERS AND THERE IS THEREFORE NO OBJECTION TO
DISCUSSING THEM ALSO WITH AMB. JAENICKE.

2. DEPARTMENT OFFICER MET WITH JOSE ALEGRETT, VENEZUELAN
GOVERNOR ON INTELSAT BOARD OF GOVERNORS, TO DISCUSS REPORTS
THAT CERTAIN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, AND VENEZUELA IN
PARTICULAR, WERE PREPARING TO SUPPORT AN INITIATIVE TO OUST
ROC AT FORTHCOMING INTELSAT ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES MEETING.
ALEGRETT, WHO IS ALSO MINISTER COUNSELOR VENEZUELAN EMBASSY
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WASHINGTON, SAID HE HAS HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH

OFFICERS OF PRC LIAISON OFFICE WASHINGTON AND WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ON THE QUESTION OF CHINESE MEMBERSHIP IN INTELSAT. HE SAID HE DEFINITELY EXPECTS THERE WILL BE AN INITIATIVE; ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT STATE PRECISELY WHO WOULD BE IN THE LEAD HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE CANADA, THAT PAKISTAN WAS INVOLVED, AND THAT WHILE VENEZUELA WOULD NOT BE THE LEADER IT WILL BE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE INITIATIVE. OUR EMBASSY IN OTTAWA DOUBTS THAT CANADA WILL

BE ACTIVE ON THE CHINA ISSUE.

3. ALEGRETT THINKS FIRST CHALLENGE WILL BE MADE IN CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WHERE HE EXPECTS A MAJORITY WILL SUPPORT THE PRC IF FACED WITH A CHOICE. HE THINKS IT IS POSSIBLE THE PRC WILL BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING AND PREPARED TO ASSUME ROC SEAT IF ROC IS OUSTED. FINALLY, ALEGRETT ALLEGES VENEZUELA AND MOST OTHER INTELSAT MEMBERS ARE STRONGLY INTERESTED IN PRESERVING TAIWAN'S ACCESS TO INTELSAT SYSTEM REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENS WITH THEIR MEMBERSHIP.

4. WE HAVE ALSO LEARNED THAT PRC LIAISON OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES REQUESTED A MEETING AND MET INTELSAT SECRETARY GENERAL ASTRAIN AUGUST 11. PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS APPARENTLY TO UNDERSCORE FOR INTELSAT PRC AWARENESS OF ROC MEMBERSHIP. AT SEVERAL POINTS PRC REPS SAID PRC WOULD BE PREPARED TO ATTEND MEETING OF ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES AND TAKE A SEAT AS THE ONLY ENTITY COMPETENT TO REPRESENT CHINA. THEY WERE VAGUE AS TO HOW THEY MIGHT BE INVITED TO TAKE SEAT. SECRETARY GENERAL INFERRED THAT PRC WOULD NOT ITSELF CONTEST ROC CREDENTIALS. HE WAS UNABLE TO GET CLEAR PICTURE OF WHAT FORM OF RESOLUTION MIGHT BE INTRODUCED AT ASSEMBLY, I.E., WHETHER IT WOULD SIMPLY INVITE PRC TO TAKE SEAT, OR GO FURTHER AND PURPORT TO CONFER MEMBERSHIP.

5. JAPANESE MINISTRY OF POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS (MPT) ADVISED EMBASSY TOKYO THAT PRC EMBOFF VISITED MINISTRY ON AUGUST 12 WITH FORMAL REQUEST THAT JAPAN VOTE IN FAVOR OF PRC PARTNERSHIP IN INTELSAT AT SEPTEMBER ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES. PRC INFORMED MPT THAT UNSPECIFIED GOVERNMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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FRIENDLY TO PRC WOULD PRESENT RESOLUTION TO THE CONFERENCE. TO ADMIT THE PRC IN PLACE OF TAIWAN. ACCORDING TO MPT SOURCE, JAPAN WILL SUPPORT THE REQUEST. PRC DID NOT DISCUSS OR ASK JAPAN TO SUPPORT EXCLUSION OF TAIWAN'S RIGHTS TO ACCESS INTELSAT, AND MPT INFORMED EMBOFF JAPAN PROBABLY COULD NOT OBLIGE PRC ON THAT ISSUE ANYWAY--AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT. JAPAN HAS AGREED THAT WE MAY USE

THIS INFORMATION FULLY AND DISCLOSE ITS SOURCE.

6. CANADIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON INFORMED DEPARTMENT AUGUST 18 THAT PRC HAD THAT MORNING CALLED ON TRANSPORT SECTION OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT IN OTTAWA. PRC SAID IT EXPECTED ISSUE OF ROC'S MEMBERSHIP TO COME UP AT THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES AND THAT IT WANTED IT PRESSED TO A VOTE. PRC SAID IT WOULD NOT ACCEPT A RESOLUTION WHICH LOOKED TOWARD EXISTENCE OF A TWO-CHINA POLICY WITHIN

INTELSAT. CANADA WAS NOT ASKED TO SPONSOR ANY RESOLUTION

AND PRC DID NOT SAY EITHER WHO WOULD SUBMIT ONE OR WHAT PRECISELY IT WOULD SAY. (EMBOFF EXPECTS CANADA TO TAKE

VERY LOW PROFILE ON THIS ISSUE AT MEETING.) PRC SAID IT WANTED TO JOIN INTELSAT AND WOULD SEEK MEMBERSHIP, ALTHOUGH IT GAVE NO PARTICULAR SENSE OF THE TIMING OF MEMBERSHIP ACTION, I.E., DEPOSIT OF AN INSTRUMENT OF ACCESSION AND SIGNATURE OF OPERATING AGREEMENT.

7. PRC TOLD CANADA IT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO CONTINUED COMMERCIAL DEALINGS BETWEEN INTELSAT AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS ON TAIWAN, AND IT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO BUSINESSLIKE ARRANGEMENT FOR TAIWAN'S EARTH STATIONS TO ACCESS INTELSAT SYSTEM. THIS IS ONLY INDICATION WE HAVE TO DATE OF PRC VIEW OF ACCESS ISSUE. CANADA HAS SPECIFICALLY SAID IT HAS NO OBJECTION TO OUR USING THIS INFORMATION FULLY IN DEVELOPING A STRATEGY IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHERS FOR THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES MEETING, BUT THEY DO NOT WANT CANADA IDENTIFIED AS THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION.

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8. WE HAVE INFORMED THE ROC OF THE FOREGOING INFORMATION AND REFERRED TO THE CANADIAN INFORMATION AS COMING FROM AN UNNAMED CAPITAL WHICH IS A RELIABLE SOURCE.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ACTION OR INFO ADDRESSEES CAN DISCREETLY DEVELOP CONCERNING PRC INTENTIONS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN FORM OF RESOLUTION PRC MAY HAVE INTRODUCED AND IN PRC VIEWS CONCERNING CONTINUED TAIWAN ACCESS TO INTELSAT AS NON-MEMBER. ACTION ADDRESSEES MAY DRAW ON INFORMATION ABOVE IN DISCUSSING WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS. PLEASE SEND SUBSEQUENT CABLES ON THIS SUBJECT TO TAIPEI AND NAIROBI FOR INFO. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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